despite Government's decision to do so on two occasions as published in Pioneer of 17th December, 1991 and Hindu of 26th December, 1991; and

(d) whether Government propose to set up a Parliamentary Committee to study as a test case the reasons for last minute cancellation of this too quality video, produced with the assistance of well known professionals?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) Doordarshan endeavours to inform, educate and entertain its viewers through various programmes produced in-house as well as by outside agencies. Funds for Doordarshan are provided for from the budget grant of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. During 1990-91, Doordarshan's expenditure was Rs. 601.77 crores both plan and non-plan.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Telecast of a documentary film 'The Killing Fields' supplied by the Voluntary Health Association of India, New Delhi was scheduled for telecast by Doordarshan on 12-9-1991 and 31-12-1991. However, the film could not be telecast as the copyright holder's status and the terms for payment of royalty etc. were not clear. The telecast of this film after completing the necessary formalities is, however, dependent on the programme requirement of Doordarshan.

(d) No, Sir.

Directives to Doordarshan regarding Criminal Films

2060. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING eb pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that violence, Killings and smuggling scenes in cinema films are on the increase, and if so, what are the measures Government have taken to curb such criminal acts being screened;

(b) whether Government propose to direct the Doordarshan not to sceen films with criminal acts;

(c) whether it is a fact that police personnel, are portrayed in films as cowards, corrupt and accomplices to smuggling activities; and

(d) if so, what steps have been taken to prohibit such scenes which affect the morale of the law enforcing authorities?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) Government's attention has ben drawn to some adverse comments about scenes of violence etc., shown in the films. The Central Board of Flm Certificattion certifies screening of only those films which fulfil the provisions contained in the guidelines under the cinematograph Act, 1952 as amended from time to time. The guidelines *inter-alia* provide as follows:—

(i) anti-social activities such as violence are not glorified or justified;

(ii) pointless or avoidable scenes of violence, cruelty and horror are not shown; and

(iii) the *modus operandi* of criminals or other visuals or words likely to incite the commission of any offence are not depicted.

(b) Doordarshan already have specified guidelines for selection of films for telecast. Following are the broad criteria laid down by the Government for telecast of feature films:

—International/National/State awards won;

—Cinomatic Value;

—Thematic Value;

—Entertainment Value;

—Year of production;

—Suitability for family viewing;

—Extent to which the film has been commercialy exploited;

—Number of times the film has been shown on TV and from which Centres|Kendras.

(c) and (d) Film Certification Guidelines *inter-alia* stipulate that visuals or words involving defamation of an individual or a body of individuals or contempt of court, or contemptuous of racial, religious or other groups are not presented. The Central Film Certificaton Board ensures this while certifying films which are presented to it for public exhibition.

Underplaying Events and Development in Afghanistan

2061. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the recent events and developments in Afghanistan were underplayed by the A.I.R. and Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the policy of AIR and Doordarshan varies from country to country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what action is being taken to ensure autonomy of AIR and Doordarshan;

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir. Developments in various countries are covered on the basis of their news value. However, a special effort is made to cover the events and developments in neighbouring countries keeping in view the interests of the listeners.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The All India Radio and Doordarshan enjoy total functional autonomy in day to day management.

Expenditure incurred on publicity of National Issue

2062. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large amount is being spent by Government on publicity by way of adevertisements and hoardings to create public awareness on important national issues and Government policies;

(b) if so, the break-up of such expenditure incurred under various heads during the last three years;

(c) whether any economy has been made during 1991-92; and

(d) if so, the effect of the economy cut on the objectives to be achieved through publicity?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) to (d) The amount spent by the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity during the last three years was Rs. 6239.10